

**System and Method for Controlling  
Invalid Password Attempts**

**ABSTRACT**

5 A system and method for controlling invalid password  
attempts in a multiple replica computer system environment  
is presented. A centralized strikeout server receives  
failed login attempts from the multiple replica servers  
over a secure sockets layer (SSL) connection. The  
centralized strikeout server tracks the number of failed  
10 login attempts over a configurable login tracking period.  
If the number of failed login attempts exceeds the number  
of failed login attempts allowed, the centralized server  
revokes the password corresponding to the user id which  
exceeded the number of failed login attempts allowed.  
15 Password revocation message are sent to one or more login  
servers. Cleanup processing removes older failed login  
attempts that occurred outside the login tracking period.  
Digital signatures, or certificates, are used to  
authenticate computer systems to one another.

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